

MISSING PAGE

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT MISSING PAGE(S):

TAB 14 - MISSING

ARMY, DOS, DIA reviews

Army/DOS/DIA
Declassification/Release

13 MAR 1948

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GENERAL

1. UK to seek Italian views on joining western European union--
 US Embassy London has been informed by the UK Foreign Office that Bevin plans to "draw out" Italian Foreign Minister Sforza concerning Italy's participation in the western European union, during the Committee on European Economic Cooperation meetings which begin in Paris on 15 March. A high UK Foreign Office official remarked that Italy might prefer to leave the question open until after the April elections.

(CIA Comment: The UK had previously indicated a disinclination to invite Italy to join the western European union at this time because of the possibility of further complicating a settlement of the Italian colonial issues.)

EUROPE

2. NORWAY: Government asks for indication of US policy--
 US Ambassador Bay has been told by Foreign Minister Lange that the Norwegian Government desires some indication concerning the possibility of US military support for Norway in the event of pressure or attempted occupation by the USSR.
3. DENMARK: Government intends to reject any Soviet proposals--
 The Danish Foreign Minister has told US Ambassador Marvel that Denmark's reply to a Soviet request for a treaty or non-aggression pact would be "a flat no." The Foreign Minister added that Soviet aggression could only be halted by a US declaration that any further Soviet advance would be met by force, and expressed the hope that the US would make such a declaration.

The Foreign Minister also has informed Marvel that the Danes seriously intend "to defend their country in the event of a Soviet attack." He added that the Government considers the situation "most threatening" and urgently requests that Denmark be permitted to purchase large quantities of US military equipment immediately.

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐☐ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S (C)

DDA-Memo, 4 Apr 77

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4. FRANCE: Unidentified planes reported supplying Communists--
The US Military Attache in London has been informed by the French Air Attache that unidentified aircraft "have been flying over southeastern France at night on numerous occasions and that the French know that at least some of these aircraft have dropped arms to Communist groups." The French Attache added that the French have considered attempting interception of these aircraft with the assistance of radar but have decided against this action.

(CIA Comment: Previously received reports indicating that arms are being parachuted at night to Communist groups in France have not been verified.)

France faces imminent dollar exchange crisis--The French Minister of Finance has informed US Ambassador Caffery that the French Government's dollar supply will be "flat broke" on 25 March and that France will have no alternative but to stop all dollar imports and all other payments in dollars. Mayer declared that unless France has some assistance, "it is difficult to see how an economic and political crisis of the first magnitude can be avoided."

Caffery comments that Prime Minister Schuman and the French Cabinet view with extreme gravity the possibility of a "break in the pipe-line to France," and that even a short moratorium on dollar payments would have serious repercussions at precisely the time when the Communists are expected to open their drive in France.

5. ITALY: US suggests consideration of Italian membership in UN--
The Department of State has suggested to the US delegation at the UN that it begin confidential discussions with British, French, Belgian, Canadian, and Chinese delegates on the desirability of endorsing Italy's application for UN membership. The Department asks that the US delegation stress the vital importance of such a move on the eve of the Italian national elections. The Department observes that: (a) under present circumstances it would be most embarrassing to the USSR and to the Italian Communists if the USSR were to veto the Italian application again; and (b) if the application were approved the western nations would gain the credit for this action from the Italian people.

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